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C A L I F O R N I A

Labor & Workforce Development Agency

N E W S R E L E A S E

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Schwarzenegger Administration Directs Job Training Funds to Areas Hard Hit by Economic Slowdown

SACRAMENTO – Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Labor and Workforce Development Agency announced today that \$2.5 million in job training grants will be directed to regions of California that have been hardest hit by the economic downturn.

The Workforce Investment Act funds will go to the three metropolitan areas that have suffered the steepest job losses in the state's three most distressed industry sectors: construction, financial services and manufacturing. The funding is intended to help these areas with extra job training resources until additional federal funds are allocated in July.

"These are direct, unsolicited grants that will help people who are out of work as a result of the national economic slowdown with education, training and job placement assistance," said Labor and Workforce Development Agency Secretary Victoria Bradshaw.

Workforce investment boards in the metropolitan statistical areas of Los Angeles, Orange County and San Bernardino/Riverside will receive funding. In addition to this round of job training grants, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency already has:

- Made available \$10.5 million in grants and job training contracts with businesses to help train laid off residential construction workers for new jobs in commercial construction and public works projects laid out in the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan.
- [Awarded more than \\$6 million in grants](#) to help more than 1,500 newly discharged veterans as they return to the civilian workforce.
- Worked with the U.S. Department of Labor to secure \$5.6 million to help displaced mortgage and banking workers find new jobs.
- Launched a public awareness campaign to highlight the opportunities now available in construction trade apprenticeship programs for jobs in public works projects.

In an effort to help unemployed workers in the hard-hit housing and financial services sectors, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency's Employment Development Department has established a Web site listing services relevant to people in these industries. The site at www.edd.ca.gov offers information on unemployment insurance, career training and help for workers to assess their skills and identify in-demand occupations in today's economy.

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